

**Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative
Grants for Community-based Collaborative Prevention Services
*Fiscal Year 2005 Evaluation Report***

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of the State of Michigan

Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative **Grants for Community-based Collaborative Prevention Services** ***Fiscal Year 2005 Evaluation Report***

Background:

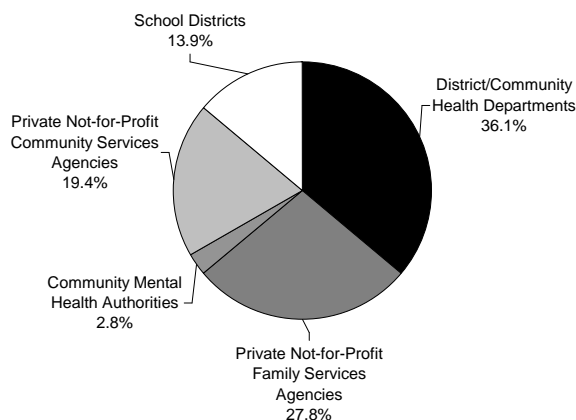
The Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative (0-3) is a statewide, community-based collaborative project aimed at developing an integrated system of services for Michigan families with children ages 0-3 who are at risk of abuse and/or neglect. Zero to Three is funded through blended appropriations from the State of Michigan Departments of Community Health (DCH; \$524,000.00), Education (MDE; 250,000.00; State School Aid General Fund), and Human Services (DHS; \$4,000,000.00). Additionally, the Children's Trust Fund administers the Initiative on behalf of the collaborative partners who advise through an Interagency Steering Committee.

Table 1: Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Collaborative Partners and Appropriations	
Michigan Department of Community Health	\$524,000.00
Michigan Department of Education	\$250,000.00
Michigan Department of Human Services	\$4,000,000.00
Children's Trust Fund Administration	
Total	\$4,774,000.00

The Fiscal Year 2004-2005 legislation for the 0-3 Initiative is PA 349 of 2004 (DCH), PA 351 of 2004 (MDE), and PA 344 of 2004 (DHS). The legislation requires that 0-3 funds shall be used for grants to support community-based collaborative prevention services designed to:

- foster positive parenting skills;
- promote marriage;
- improve parent/child interactions;
- promote access to needed community services;
- increase local capacity to serve families at risk;
- improve school readiness;
- and support healthy environments that discourage alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use.

Figure 1: Types of Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Grantees
N = 36 Grantees



For Fiscal Year 2005, the 0-3 Initiative funded 36 Grantees serving 44 Counties. Figure 1 provides the proportions of different agencies receiving funds through Zero to Three grants. Grantees are diverse in background, but all provide evidenced-based, family-centered prevention programs that serve an at-risk population to reduce the incidence of maltreatment among the State of Michigan's youngest children.

Evaluation Components:

During Fiscal Year 2005, the Initiative has developed methodologies for data collection and evaluation components. The Steering Committee created a set of outcomes-based indicators focused on legislative intents of the Initiative. These indicators¹ were created to address the building reality of outcomes and accountability for programs and services. The overarching purpose of this set of indicators is to systematically collect data from the entirety of grantees, and aggregate this data to inform the system as a whole.

In addition, all 36 grantees are using the *Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory* (AAPI-2) as the state-wide evaluation measure. The AAPI-2 is an inventory designed to assess the parenting and child rearing attitudes of adult and adolescent parent and pre-parent populations. Based on the known parenting and child rearing behaviors of abusive parents, responses to the inventory provide an index of risk for practicing behaviors known to be attributable to child abuse and neglect.

Finally, the quarterly data collection system has been amended to ensure consistent and accurate data collection from all grantees. Further, the methods through which the data are processed and analyzed are also being updated to provide more precise statistics. Due to these data analysis changes, the statistics are analyzed differently and may look different from previous fiscal years.

Demographic and Service Data

Data is collected each quarter on participants and the services they receive. Because of the possibility for duplication over the four quarters, the Initiative has chosen to report the number of participants served as an average. For each quarter in fiscal year 2005, 0-3 Grantees served an average of **2756 families**, 65.6% of whom have 3 or more risk factors, **2695 children**, and **505 pregnant women**. In sum, grantees of the Initiative screened 15,688 families in Fiscal Year 2005. Further, 2,417 families, 2,286 children and 816 pregnant women were newly enrolled in 0-3 funded services.

Grantees, through 0-3 Funds, delivered 72,800 services

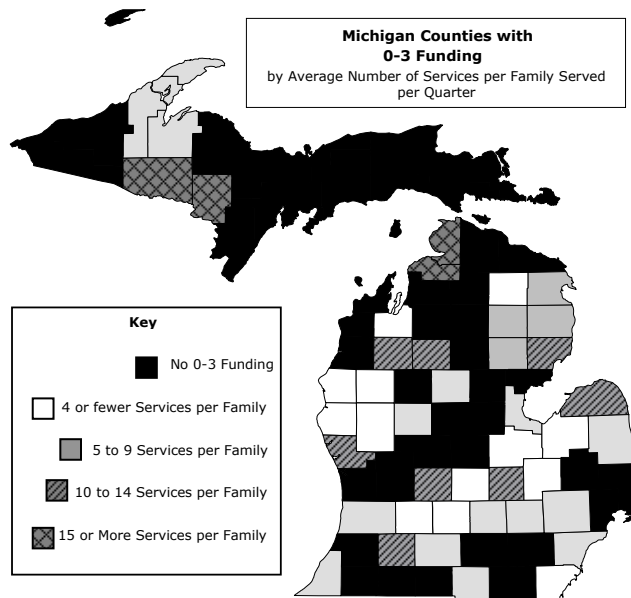


Figure 2: Michigan Counties with 0-3 Funding and Average Number of Services per Family per Quarter (note: fewer services may indicate intensive services; funding is not equal for all grantees).

¹ The Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Indicators are available at: <http://www.gillespiereasearch.org/0-3indicatorsframe.html>

in Fiscal Year 2005. Figure 2 shows the average numbers of services families receive per quarter in 0-3 funded counties. Of this total, 44.0% were home visits, 20.4% were service coordination activities, and 8.1% were services focused on parenting education, support groups, and counseling services. Other services provided include childcare and respite services, transportation, developmental assessments, telephone contacts, and the distribution of educational newsletters.

Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative Outcomes

Outcomes are categorized by the legislative requirements. Data for each of the legislative requirements is provided using three data collection tools: quarterly data collection forms, the Adult Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI-2) and an analysis of child protective services involvement.

Foster positive parenting skills - Supporting parents in strengthening characteristics that lend to stability to their child's development

These programs focus on helping parents increase their understanding of child development, increase awareness and responsiveness to child engagement, increase understanding of appropriate child discipline techniques, and provide a safe and nurturing home environment.

- Using the AAPI-2 to assess at-risk parenting attitudes from January 2005 through the present, 51.8% of participants with more than one assessment with the AAPI-2 were found to be at-risk of child abuse and/or neglect during their initial inventory; however only 42.9% of those initially at-risk participants were found to be at-risk at their next assessment indicating a decrease in at-risk parenting attitudes.
- The average number of risk factors within the AAPI-2 decreased from 1.69 on the pre-test to 1.46 on a six-month follow-up inventory.
- 100.0% of grantees are providing home visits with individualized instruction or promoting access to parenting skills classes focusing on basic child care and child safety.

Improved parent/child interactions - Assisting and supporting parents to be appropriately responsive and consistent with the child's development and safety

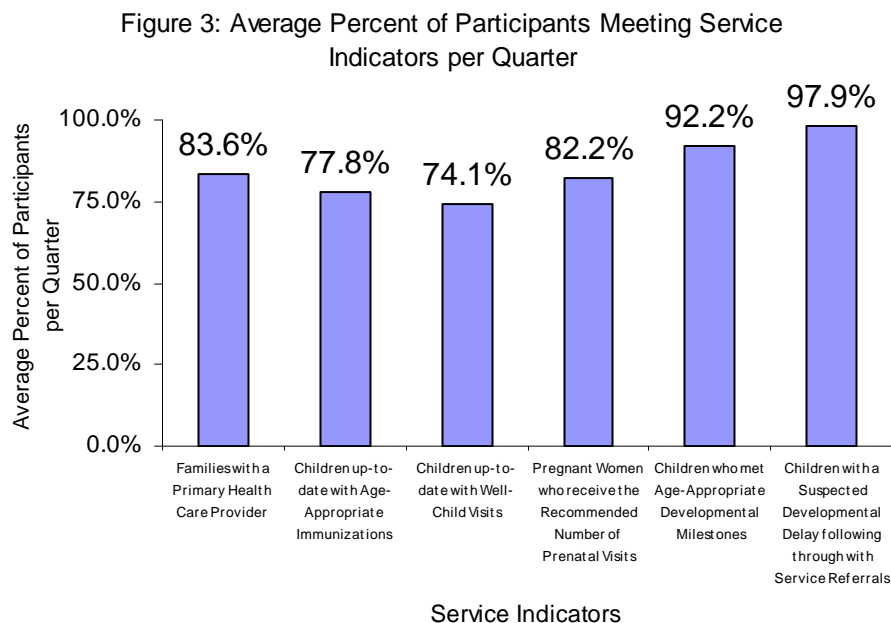
These programs focus on improving parent and child interactions including building understanding for the child's bids for attention, moods, emotions, expressions of interests, and efforts to communicate.

- The number of families served in each of the 4 quarters in FY 2005 remained between 2485 and 2969 with the average of 2756 families served per quarter.
- An analysis of Child Protective Services records shows that 97.9% of 2816 children served in Zero to Three Secondary Prevention in Fiscal Year 2005 did not have a Category 1 or 2 CPS Case while enrolled, which would have indicated a preponderance of evidence of abuse or neglect.
- 98.8% of 1188 children served and exiting services in 2005 did not subsequently have a Category 1 or 2 CPS Case after exiting services and prior to the end of the fiscal year indicating a preponderance of evidence of abuse or neglect.

Promote access to needed community services - Assistance for families to identify services to meet family needs and assist to remove barriers to accessing these services

This component includes specialized services that the child may need as well as services for the entire family unit.

- 45.4% of children, on average, participated in developmental screenings per quarter. All children receive screening when appropriate but may not warrant a screening every quarter.
- On average, 81.7% of children not meeting developmental goals were referred to appropriate services and 97.9% of families followed through with the referrals.
- Each quarter, 74.1% of children are up-to-date with well-child visits.
- 83.6% of families served, per quarter, have access to a primary health care provider.
- 82.2% of pregnant women, on average, have the recommended number of pre-natal care visits.



Improve school readiness - Efforts to contribute to the well-being of children so that they are ready to succeed in school and life is paramount in the first years of life

Zero to Three Secondary Prevention focuses on readiness factors to succeed including social, emotional and physical health, communication, enthusiasm and curiousness, the ability to problem solve, and being grounded in safe, stable, consistent, and nurturing relationships.

- 77.8% of children served, per quarter, are up to date with age appropriate immunizations.
- 92.2% of children assessed per quarter meet age appropriate developmental milestones.

Increase local capacity to serve families at-risk – Building capacity and expanding prevention programs in communities

Programs should maintain a stable level of services with steady matching funds and local supports so families identified to be at the greatest risk and need can receive community interventions.

- On average, 65.6% of families served per quarter have 3 or more risk factors for child abuse and/or neglect.
- 100.0% of grantees maintain the number and types of services available to families throughout the fiscal year.
- Grantees continually secure matching funds to maintain stable levels of services to families at risk.

Support healthy family environments that discourage alcohol, tobacco and other drug use - Information and support that encourage healthy life choices, a physical environment that protects family members from injuries and illness and discourages use/abuse of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol are important to prevention activities

Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Grantees incorporate this information into home visiting and parenting education activities. Data tracking will begin in Fiscal Year 2006 and more information will be available throughout the year.

- 100.0% of grantees included educational opportunities and supports for healthy family environments free of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Promotion of Marriage - These activities support healthy relationships so that child well-being is maximized

This is the newest focus of the Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative, and began in October 2004. While the majority of activities in 2005 aimed at getting grantees trained and supported to help participants gain access to information on marriage and healthy relationships, other areas to be addressed include enhancing positive relationship skills including effective communication and problem solving, promoting father involvement, and preventing domestic violence. Data tracking will begin in Fiscal Year 2006 and more information will be available throughout the year.

- 54.3% of grantees have participated in in-services for the “Caring for My Family” marriage and healthy relationship curriculum developed by the Michigan State University Extension.

Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI-2) Preliminary Data

In Fiscal Year 2005, the Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative expanded use of the AAPI-2 to all 36 grantees. Based on data collected and analyzed over the 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarters of Fiscal Year 2005, significant changes in parenting attitudes and decreases in risk factors are evident. While the evaluation is setting longitudinal goals, these preliminary analyses indicate successes for families and children served.

The AAPI-2 measures parenting attitudes for five known attributes of those who maltreat children. The five constructs are Appropriate Expectations of Children, Empathy for the Needs of the Child, Alternatives to Corporal Punishment, Appropriate Parent and Child Roles, and Valuing Children’s Power and Independence. Scores for each of the five AAPI-2 constructs range from a low of 1 to a high of 10; a score of 1, 2 or 3 on a construct are considered at-risk for the given construct. Additionally, the AAPI-2 evaluation is using a *Demographic Questionnaire* to track demographic and other life changes for participating families throughout their involvement.

Based on the first three quarters of data collection, the following is known about those participating in the AAPI-2 Evaluation and Zero to Three Secondary Prevention:

- 24.6% of participants are teen parents or expectant parents.
- 30.9% of participants have taken post-secondary courses at the college/university level.
- 60.2% of participants reported an approximate household annual income of \$15,000.00 or less.
- 35.1% of participants are married and 41.3% are single-parent mothers.
- 33.6% of participants have previously participated in a parenting program.
- 91.5% of participants rate their relationship with their children as good or very good.
- 76.9% of participants rate their parenting skills good or very good.
- 56.7% of participants rate their relationship with their own mother, as a child, as good or very good.
- 44.3% of participants rate their relationship with their own father, as a child, as good or very good.
- 69.0% of participants rate their current quality of life as good or very good.
- 48.1% of participants have at least one AAPI-2 Construct Score that places them at risk; additionally, 42.9% of participants with a 6-month follow-up assessment have at least one construct that place them at risk.

Participant's scores on the AAPI-2 show average scores at normal levels. The average AAPI-2 score for those taking the initial assessment are listed below:

- Appropriate Expectations of Children: 5.35; 13.6% of participants are at risk;
- Empathy for Children's Needs: 4.95; 25.5% of participants are at risk;
- Alternative to Corporal Punishment: 5.22; 17.2% of participants are at risk;
- Appropriate Parent and Child Roles: 5.28; 20.9% of participants are at risk;
- Valuing Children's Power and Independence: 5.82; 16.1% of participants are at risk.

Figure 4 shows the changes in scores from the initial assessment to the first 6-month follow-up for participants with at least 2 administrations. Both the Empathy for Children's Needs and Appropriate Parent and Child Roles Constructs increased significantly ($p \leq 0.05$) from the initial assessment to the first follow-up administration.

Figure 4: Changes in Average Scores from Initial Assessments to the first 6-Month Follow-Up for Participants with Multiple Administrations
N = 56

